

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for abrading tissue having a distal end and a proximal end, which includes:

- a) a gas inlet port connected to a pressurized gas source;
- b) a liquid inlet port connected to a pressurized liquid source; and
- c) a mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement including
 - i) at least one gas discharge nozzle arranged to receive a flow of pressurized gas from said gas inlet port and configured to accelerate the flow of gas so as to discharge it into the atmosphere at an elevated velocity at said distal end of said device so that the gas flow undergoes a rapid and substantial reduction in pressure to atmospheric pressure; and
 - ii) at least one liquid discharge nozzle arranged to receive a flow of liquid from said liquid inlet port and configured and operative to discharge the flow of liquid at a point past said distal end of said device into the elevated velocity flow of gas, thereby to similarly accelerate ~~the~~ a velocity of the discharged liquid as a mist of accelerated droplets.

2. (Currently Amended) A device in accordance with claim 1, which further includes suction means which includes

- a) a suction conduit disposed in operative association with respect to said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement and including at least one suction port;
- b) an atmospheric air inlet conduit having at least one air inlet port disposed in operative association with respect to said suction conduit and to said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement; and
- c) means for applying a suction force to said suction conduit, thereby to cause suctioning from said at least one suction port of liquid and abraded tissue particles in ~~the~~ a vicinity of said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement.

3. (Withdrawn) A device for abrading tissue, which includes:
- a) a gas inlet port connected to a pressurized gas source;
 - b) a liquid inlet port connected to a pressurized liquid source;
 - c) a mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement; and
 - d) a suction nozzle arrangement including
 - i) a suction conduit disposed in operative association with respect to said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement and including at least one suction port;
 - ii) an atmospheric air inlet conduit having at least one air inlet port disposed in operative association with respect to said suction conduit and to said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement; and
 - iii) means for applying a suction force to said suction conduit, thereby to cause suctioning from said at least one suction port of liquid and abraded tissue particles in the vicinity of said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement.
4. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein gas is supplied from the pressurized gas source at a pressure in the range of 40-150 p.s.i.
5. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein liquid is supplied from the pressurized liquid source at a pressure in the range of 1 to 5 p.s.i.
6. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the gas supplied from the pressurized gas source includes at least one gas selected from: air, oxygen, carbon dioxide and nitrogen.
7. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein gas discharged from said at least one gas discharge nozzle is accelerated to a velocity in the range of

sub-sonic to supersonic velocity.

8. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement includes at least two gas discharge nozzles.

9. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement includes at least two liquid discharge nozzles.

10. (Withdrawn).

11. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said at least one gas discharge nozzle is a device configured to have a converging portion, a throat portion and a diverging portion.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the flow of gas entering said at least one gas discharge nozzle is at a pressure of a first magnitude, and said at least one gas discharge nozzle is operative to cause a pressure drop in the flow of gas ~~flow~~ therethrough such that the pressure of the gas discharged from said at least one gas discharge nozzle is of a second magnitude, wherein the first magnitude is at least twice the second magnitude, so as to cause a shock wave in the flow of gas and the flow of liquid ~~flow~~ downstream of said at least one gas discharge nozzle and said at least one liquid discharge nozzle so as to cause atomizing of the liquid discharged from said at least one liquid discharge nozzle into a high velocity mist of droplets, thereby to form a mist of accelerated ~~the~~ droplets suspended in the flow of discharged ~~high~~ elevated velocity gas.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for abrading tissue, which includes:
- a) a pressurized gas source;
 - b) a pressurized liquid source; and
 - c) a device having a distal end and a proximal end which includes:
 - i) a gas inlet port connected to said pressurized gas source;
 - ii) a liquid inlet port connected to said pressurized liquid source; and
 - iii) a mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement including
 - 1) at least one gas discharge nozzle arranged to receive a flow of pressurized gas from said gas inlet port and configured to accelerate the flow of gas so as to discharge it into the atmosphere at an elevated velocity at the distal end of said device so that the gas flow undergoes a rapid and substantial reduction in pressure to atmospheric pressure; and
 - 2) at least one liquid discharge nozzle arranged to receive a flow of liquid from said liquid inlet port and configured and operative to discharge the flow of liquid at a point past said distal end of said device into the elevated velocity flow of gas, thereby to similarly accelerate the velocity of the discharged liquid as a mist of accelerated droplets.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said system further includes

- a) a suction conduit disposed in operative association with respect to said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement and including at least one suction port;
- b) an atmospheric air inlet conduit having at least one air inlet port disposed in operative association with respect to said suction conduit and to said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement; and

- c) means for applying a suction force to said suction conduit, thereby to cause suctioning from said at least one suction port of liquid and abraded tissue particles in the vicinity of said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein gas is supplied from said pressurized gas source at a pressure in the range of 40-150 p.s.i.

17. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein liquid is supplied from said pressurized liquid source at a pressure in the range of 1 to 5 p.s.i.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the gas supplied from said pressurized gas source includes at least one gas selected from: air, oxygen, carbon dioxide and nitrogen.

19. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the gas discharged from said at least one gas discharge nozzle is accelerated to a velocity in the range of sub-sonic to supersonic velocity.

20. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement includes at least two gas discharge nozzles.

21. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said mist jet delivery nozzle arrangement includes at least two liquid discharge nozzles.

22. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 14, wherein said at least one liquid discharge nozzle is disposed substantially concentric and within said at least one gas discharge nozzle.

23. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said at least one gas discharge nozzle is a device configured to have a converging portion, a throat portion and a diverging portion.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 14, wherein the flow of gas entering said at least one gas discharge nozzle is at a pressure of a first magnitude, and said at least one gas discharge nozzle is operative to cause a pressure drop in the flow of gas ~~flow~~ therethrough such that the pressure of the gas discharged from said at least one gas discharge nozzle is of a second magnitude, wherein the first magnitude is at least twice the second magnitude, so as to cause a shock wave in the flow of gas and the flow of liquid ~~flow~~ downstream of said at least one gas discharge nozzle and said at least one liquid discharge nozzle so as to cause atomizing of the liquid discharged from said at least one liquid discharge nozzle into a high velocity mist of droplets, thereby to form ~~at the~~ mist of accelerated droplets suspended in the flow of discharged high velocity gas.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of abrading tissue which includes the following steps:

- a) accelerating a flow of gas through at least one gas nozzle so as to discharge ~~provide a gas discharge flow at an elevated velocity into the atmosphere so that the gas discharge flow undergoes a rapid and substantial reduction in pressure to atmospheric pressure;~~
- b) discharging into the atmosphere and introducing into the elevated velocity gas discharge flow a separate flow of liquid, thereby to fragment the liquid into a mist of droplets, and to accelerate the mist to an accelerated velocity similar to the elevated velocity of the gas discharge flow; and

- c) exposing a desired tissue mass to the accelerated droplet mist.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 26, includes an additional step of applying a suction force to a suction conduit, thereby to cause suctioning from at least one suction port of liquid and abraded tissue particles in the vicinity of the gas and mist discharge flow.

28. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of accelerating a flow of gas includes accelerating the flow of gas to a velocity in the range of sub-sonic to supersonic velocity.

29. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of accelerating a flow of gas includes accelerating the flow of gas to a velocity in the range of sonic to supersonic velocity.

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of accelerating a flow of gas includes accelerating a gas selected from ~~the~~ a group of gases including at least one of air, oxygen, nitrogen and carbon dioxide.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of introducing into the elevated velocity gas discharge flow a ~~the separate~~ flow of liquid, includes the flow of gas entering the at least one gas discharge nozzle being at a pressure of a first magnitude, and the at least one gas discharge nozzle being operative to cause a pressure drop in the gas flow therethrough such that the pressure of the gas discharged from the at least one gas discharge nozzle is of a second magnitude, wherein the first magnitude is at least twice the second magnitude, thereby causing a shock wave in the flow of gas and the flow of liquid ~~flow~~ downstream of the at least one gas discharge nozzle and ~~the~~ at least one liquid discharge nozzle so as to cause atomizing of the liquid discharged from said at least one liquid discharge nozzle into a

high the accelerated velocity mist of droplets, thereby forming a mist of droplets suspended in the flow of discharged high elevated velocity gas.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of exposing a desired tissue mass includes cleansing the tissue mass thereby to remove contaminants from the tissue mass.

34. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of exposing a desired tissue mass includes dispersing accumulated liquid from the tissue mass by the flow of high velocity gas.

35. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein said step of exposing a desired tissue mass includes cleansing away and destroying residual anaerobic organisms using a sterile liquid mist in a flow of oxygen gas.

36. (New) A device according to claim 11, wherein said at least one gas discharge nozzle is configured such that discharging gas has a cone angle of less than 10 degrees, thereby providing a substantially parallel gas flow.

37. (New) A device according to claim 23, wherein said at least one gas discharge nozzle is configured such that discharging gas has a cone angle of less than 10 degrees, thereby providing a substantially parallel gas flow.